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December 1, 2005

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary  
Department of Telecommunications & Energy  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
One South Station – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02210

Re: **D.T.E. 03-87 - Semi-annual Double Pole Report**

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

This letter constitutes Verizon Massachusetts' ("Verizon MA") narrative regarding the statewide semi-annual double pole report, which it filed on December 1, 2005, under separate cover on behalf of the utilities, in accordance with the standardized format adopted by the Department in the September 1, 2005, Hearing Officer ruling in this docket. The December 1<sup>st</sup> semi-annual report covers the period between May 1, 2005 and October 31, 2005, and displays the data in two categories: backlog double poles and new double poles. Backlog double poles are those placed on or before January 31, 2004, while new double poles are those placed after January 31, 2004.


Significant progress has been made in reducing the number of backlog double poles in Massachusetts. At the start of the reporting period, there were over 33,000 backlog double poles. Through October 2005, approximately 20,000 – or 62 percent - of the total backlog double poles were removed. Of the 12,472 backlog double poles remaining, approximately 50 percent are concentrated in ten percent of the communities statewide. By continuing to target those communities, meaningful progress continues to be made toward eliminating the backlog double poles by Verizon MA's targeted date of second quarter of 2007, as described in the removal plan filed on January 27, 2004, pursuant to the Department's directives in its November 28, 2003, Report and Order.

During the reporting period, 3,181 new double poles were placed primarily due to electric company infrastructure upgrades. This resulted in a modest increase of 1,006 in the number of new double poles over 90 days.

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If the Department has any questions or would like to discuss this narrative further,  
I can be reached at 617-743-9250.

Respectfully submitted,



John L. Conroy

cc: Attached DTE 03-87 Service List